



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

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PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING YOUTH CROSSROADS, INC. ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR FOUNDING

WHEREAS, the members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners congratulates Youth Crossroads, Inc. on their 50th Anniversary since their founding; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, a group of community organizers from Berwyn received state funding to create a three-year project known as the Youth in Crisis Project; and

WHEREAS, the Youth in Crisis project provided crisis intervention for houseless youth, drug abuse counseling, and support services for underserved teens in the west suburbs; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, organizers from the Youth in Crisis Project incorporated the non-profit charitable organization West Suburban Youth Outreach, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, by 1978, the agency moved into its own facility in the City of Berwyn. Over the next three decades the agency continued to grow and expand their services; and

WHEREAS, the new services provided included reaching youth in trouble with police, involved with gangs, or experiencing problems at home, in school, or in the community; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the agency changed its name to Youth Crossroads, Inc. to better reflect the evolution and expansion of services aimed at preventing problems rather than only reacting to issues that had reached the crisis stage; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, Youth Crossroads, Inc. formed the Youth Leadership Program to focus on local teens; and

WHEREAS, shortly after, in 2009, Youth Crossroads, Inc. created its Community School Initiative and After-School Program for middle school students; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, Youth Crossroads, Inc. began providing school-based counseling to better serve youth; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 Youth Crossroads, Inc. relaunched community services to reach youth outside of school districts; and

WHEREAS, Youth Crossroads, Inc. created a workforce development program to give high school students and young adults the tools and training needed to get good paying jobs and develop careers that they can be proud of; and

WHEREAS, Youth Crossroads, Inc. also created a violence prevention program aimed to reduce gun violence in communities; and

WHEREAS, since its creation, Youth Crossroads, Inc. has served tens of thousands of youths and young adults and their families from Berwyn, Cicero, Stickney, and surrounding communities, and has partnered with more than 100 community

organizations to create a network of sources and resources to address the issues facing youth and their families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, do hereby honor and celebrate Youth Crossroads, Inc. on their 50th anniversary in April of 2024.